

**Remarks/Arguments**

Entry of the foregoing amendments, prior to examination, is respectfully requested. The specification is amended pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.71(g), to refer to a Joint Research Agreement.

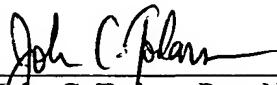
After entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-9, 12-19, 21 and 23 are pending.

An abstract is enclosed.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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